

HABS, PA, 51-PHILA, 288-

2p
1d*

PENNSYLVANIA
STATE

Philadelphia (51) PHILADELPHIA
COUNTY TOWN or VICINITY

BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church (PA-1318))
STRUCTURE

* Caption page

419 S. Sixth St., at SE cor. Addison St.,
Society Hill Historic District. Brick with
random rough-hewn granite front and rusti-
cated base, approx. 64' (three-bay front)
x 82' with three-story rear Sunday School
building, two stories, gabled roof with
two cross gables, four-story square corner
tower and belfry with gargoyles and

Card 1 of 2

(PA-1318)

clustered colonette pinnacles, large semicircular window on three sides; three-aisle plan with balconies, hexagonal chancel; Romanesque Revival details. Built 1889-90, Hazelhurst and Huckel, architects. The Fourth African Methodist Episcopal Church building on this lot, purchased 1787 and the oldest piece of real estate owned by blacks in the United States. Richard Allen, first ordained black man in America and founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, is buried in basement crypt. 2 ext. photos (1973). NHL.

Card Prepared 1979.